



State of Illinois  
Pat Quinn, Governor

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Doug Scott, Director



## Former Marathon Oil Station 1130-1154 Bellwood Ave. Bellwood, Illinois



ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

## INTRODUCTION

In many Illinois communities, there are abandoned gas stations or other facilities with no responsible party to pay for cleaning up leaking underground storage tanks. These environmental hazards prevent economic revitalization across the state. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) intends to close out as many abandoned or orphaned leaking underground storage tank (Leaking UST) sites as possible and issue a No Further Remediation Letter to facilitate the redevelopment of the property for productive re-use as quickly as possible.

## THE THREAT OF CONTAMINATION

Leaking USTs are a significant source of environmental contamination and may pose the following threats to human health and safety:

- ✗ fire and explosion;
- ✗ inhalation of dangerous vapors;
- ✗ contamination of soil and groundwater;
- ✗ contamination of drinking water;
- ✗ contamination of streams, rivers, and lakes.





As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), U.S. EPA has provided funding to Illinois EPA and other states to address these threats. Illinois EPA plans to use its current remediation consultants and contractors to investigate and perform the necessary clean-ups.

Corrective action at the former gas station located at 1130-1154 Bellwood Ave., involved abandoning existing groundwater monitoring wells and the application of an asphalt barrier on the unpaved portion of the site. This barrier will prevent ingestion of any contaminated soil and the further leaching of any contaminants from the soil into the local groundwater aquifer.

The Village of Bellwood took action to acquire the property as part of a coordinated state, local, and federal response to the problem posed by the former gas station tanks. To protect the citizens of Bellwood from ingesting contaminated groundwater, the Village of Bellwood will rely on a village-wide ordinance to prohibit the installation of private potable water wells and use of groundwater at the Site.

The adjoining Village of Westchester also has approved a municipal ordinance that prohibits the installation of private water wells and use of the local groundwater resources and is in the process of finalizing this ordinance with the Illinois EPA.

State contractor, Shaw Environmental, prepared the corrective action plan and will prepare the final report, while state contractor, Apex Companies, LLC, completed the corrective actions during the month of November 2009. The Illinois EPA expects to issue the City of Bellwood a No Further Remediation letter by February 2010.

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